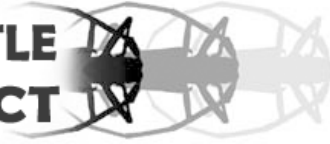




CITRUS LONGHORNED BEETLE ERADICATION PROJECT



Washington State Department of Agriculture
Citrus Longhorned Beetle Update
September 12, 2003

The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) is continuing its efforts to respond to the 2001 introduction of the **Citrus Longhorned Beetle** (CLHB) into Washington. Here is an update on recent activities.

As you will recall, Citrus Longhorned Beetle was found at a Tukwila nursery in August 2001. In summer 2002, WSDA removed trees to prevent the establishment of the extremely destructive beetle. For the past year, WSDA has been surveying trees in the area and revegetating the three-acre greenbelt where the bulk of the trees were removed.

- As of the end of August 2003, WSDA personnel have surveyed more than **20,000 trees**. No evidence of beetle activity has been detected. Approximately 45,000 trees are in the Tukwila quarantine zone. A new season of surveying begins this month. The purpose of the surveying is to demonstrate the success of citrus longhorned beetle eradication.
- The **revegetation of the greenbelt** continues with the planting of trees and shrubs on the three-acre hillside. Virtually all trees planted are firs, hemlocks, and cedars, which will grow to a height of 100-250 feet. All trees and shrubs planted are native to western Washington, and none are a host to the beetle. WSDA crews are **watering and weeding** the vegetation to ensure maximum survivability.
- To prevent soil runoff in the steepest part of the greenbelt, more than 900 feet of 9-inch **sediment barriers** have been placed in the hillside.
- In addition to greenbelt revegetation by WSDA, other revegetation efforts are occurring. **Vouchers** given to property owners last summer continue to be redeemed. The vouchers vary in value depending on the number, size and location of the trees removed. The vouchers may be redeemed at area nurseries through 2007.
- WSDA continues to sponsor free **Chipper Days** the third Saturday of each month from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. The Chipper Days are held in the parking lot of Foster High School. Chipper Days help residents living in the one-half mile quarantine area dispose of prunings and other woody yard waste that can't be moved out of the quarantine area. The **quarantine**, in place since November 2001, prohibits moving the beetle or any potentially infested plant material -- including certain trees, tree prunings, deadwood, and firewood -- out of the quarantine area.

For more information...

Call our toll-free hotline at **1-800-443-6684** or visit our Web site at www.agr.wa.gov and click on "Citrus Longhorned Beetle."